

than or equal to the desired user preset temperature of the liquid. A user interface is integrally attached to the outer surface of the mug and in communication with the controller for establishing the desired temperature of the liquid.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Amended) An electronic drinking mug comprising:  
a heating element in thermal communication with said mug for heating a liquid contained in said mug;  
a temperature sensor in communication with said heating element for monitoring a temperature of said liquid;  
a controller integrally attached to an outer surface of the mug and in communication with said heating element for selectively activating and deactivating said heating element so as to heat said liquid in said mug to a desired temperature, wherein said controller receives temperature signals from said temperature sensor and deactivates said heating element when the monitored temperature of said liquid is greater than or equal to the desired temperature of said liquid; and  
a user interface integrally attached to the outer surface of said mug and being in communication with said controller for establishing the desired temperature of said liquid.

19. (Amended) A method of maintaining a liquid at a selected temperature comprising:

providing a drinking mug and a heating element in thermal communication with said mug;

providing a temperature sensor in communication with said heating element for continuously monitoring a temperature of said liquid;

integrally attaching a user interface to the outer surface of said mug, wherein said user interface is in

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communication with said controller for establishing the desired temperature of said liquid;

engaging said user interface for selecting the desired temperature for said liquid; and

heating said liquid to said selected temperature.

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